

treatment. Doctors should take a careful history and be aware of this problem in the regular follow up of patients using metered dose inhalers long term.

Careful instruction in the use of metered dose inhalers is an essential part of educating asthmatic patients. Patients should take a slow sustained inhalation when using their inhalers rather than a rapid deep breath as this may reduce the likelihood of inhaling a foreign body so deeply. Dry powder devices such as Diskhalers and, particularly, Turbohalers are possibly less likely to accept foreign bodies because of the fairly small sizes of their mouthpieces. Nevertheless, in view of the risks of inhaling a foreign body an inhaler's

safety cap should always be replaced when it is not in use.

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OBITUARY



N J Brown

N J BROWN
FRCP, FRCPATH

Norman Brown was an outstanding morbid anatomist whose special experience and skills were in stillbirths and paediatrics. This was recognised in his election as a member of the British Paediatric Association. He was also one of six founder members of the Paediatric Pathology Society.

At Southmead Hospital his opinion was highly regarded, particularly in meetings on perinatal deaths. His monthly clinicopathological conferences, held in the evenings, were well attended by both senior and junior colleagues, who regarded them as excellent postgraduate education. The atmosphere at them was always friendly as Norman's clinical experience had taught him the difficulties of bedside diagnosis. His interest in teaching was also shown in his chairmanship of the education committee in Southmead and by the care taken in training his juniors. His fascinating presidential address to Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Society recorded his experience of performing 16 800 necropsies, many of them for the coroner.

Norman had a quiet, dry wit. His interests were gardening and playing the French horn in the Southmead orchestra and in a wind quintet. He and his wife, Enid, had four children and eight grandchildren. He died suddenly from coronary disease while in New Zealand visiting one of his former trainees.—H G MATHER

Norman John Brown, a consultant pathologist to Southmead Hospital in Bristol 1951-83 and to Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children and Bristol Maternity Hospital 1971-83, died 12 December. Born 2 March 1918; educated Bristol Grammar School, Bristol University (MB, ChB 1941). Served in Royal Army Medical Corps in Middle East and Italy 1942-7. Registrar and lecturer in pathology at Bristol University 1947-51.

A B HAY
FRCOG

Andrew Bertram Hay was a skilful operator. Over the years he built up an outstanding service, which in many ways set a pioneering example of how to provide obstetric and gynaecological care to a scattered population living in a large area. He was an excellent teacher. He retired before the new maternity unit at Raigmore Hospital was built, but he had forged the links that eventually brought it into being.

Outwith medicine, in the 1960s he started and for several years supervised a youth club, familiarly known as "doc's club," in Inverness. It was one of the few facilities then to provide a healthy outlet for the

rising generation. He spent his retirement quietly, helping others, continuing his interest in gardening, and developing his interest in Gaelic. Although he had left Canada at the age of 8, he retained his Canadian citizenship. His wife, Isabell, died in 1987, and he is survived by his son, Andrew.—BRIAN MILNE

Andrew Bertram Hay, formerly a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, 1946-78, died 2 November aged 79. Born Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, 4 September 1913; educated Aberdeen Grammar School, Aberdeen University (MB, ChB 1936). General practitioner in Alford, Aberdeenshire. Hall fellow and clinical tutor in obstetrics and gynaecology at Glasgow University. During war served in Royal Army Medical Corps.

W J W THOMAS
FFARCS

Wyn Thomas was happiest when giving anaesthesia and looking after the patients in the intensive care unit at Wrexham Maelor Hospital: he established a small unit when he was first appointed and then commissioned an eight bed facility on a new site. His enthusiasm and quiet but firm leadership inspired all those around him, and he was a keen teacher.

Wyn had many interests, particularly astronomy and astrophotography, for which he developed his own observatory. He was also interested in building and flying radio controlled model aircraft, painting, music, fly fishing, wildlife, and birds. Wyn had a lovely sense of humour. He died of cancer of the colon and is survived by his wife, three daughters, and a son.—A ELERI EDWARDS, G J ARTHURS

Wynford John Walters Thomas, a consultant anaesthetist at Wrexham Maelor Hospital since 1975, died 14 November. Born Burnley; educated King's Grammar School, Macclesfield, and King's College, London, and St George's Hospital (MB, BS 1967). Senior registrar at St George's Hospital.

R L CORLETT
MD, DPH

Richard Lovell Corlett spent most of his medical career in Worcestershire. His appointment as medical superintendent of a small hospital incorporated several roles in those early days, and the work was arduous and demanding. On retiring from the position of medical officer of health he was given the freedom of the borough of Halesowen.

Early in his career he became a freemason. He founded Swinford lodge in Worcestershire and eventu-

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ally became the provincial assistant grand registrar of the lodge.

Somewhat shy socially, he had a boyish sense of humour. This was revealed in his diary of his army experiences fighting against "the Bulgars" in the first world war. He enjoyed sport, fishing, photography, and gardening. On retiring to the Isle of Man in 1963 he developed a passionate interest in roses and fruit trees. Even at 90 he would climb a ladder to check his apples. He died of bronchopneumonia. His wife died in 1988; he is survived by his son, Richard.—H CORLETT

Richard Lovell Corlett, formerly medical superintendent of Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen, and medical officer of health for the boroughs of Halesowen and Stourbridge, died 27 November. Born Liverpool, 29 October 1897; educated Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby. Enlisted in 1916 and served as second lieutenant with 9th East Lancashire Regiment in the Balkans 1917-8. Studied medicine at Liverpool University (MB, ChB 1922).



R A Sutherland

Robert Alexander Sutherland, MB, BS, a general practitioner in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, since 1958, died on 10 November aged 65. Born in Manchester on 8 September 1927, he was educated at Kingussie School and St Paul's School, where he played rugby and boxed. He qualified MRCS, LRCP at King's College Hospital in 1950 and continued to play rugby during his national service in the army until he was invalided out after contracting poliomyelitis in Malaya. Thinking that the resultant disability would preclude a career in general practice, he took up pathology instead, but he missed contact with patients and became a general practitioner. Bobby was dedicated to the care of his patients, sometimes at the expense of his personal life. He constantly strove to expand his knowledge and improve his service. His friends enjoyed his talents as a raconteur and cook. Despite his disabilities he gained great pleasure from sailing—both ocean cruisers and in races. He died of gastric carcinoma and is survived by his wife, Linda, and two daughters, Alison and Mary, and one son, Alexander.—IAN SUTHERLAND, JOHN GERVIS, PETER BERG



S M McNulty

Sean Malachy McNulty, BSC, FRCP, DPM, a consultant radiologist at Leicester General Hospital since 1977, died of cancer of the colon on 29 November. Born in County Durham in 1937, he graduated MB, BS from Durham University in 1963. After working as a registrar in medicine and in psychology he changed to radiology, becoming a consultant in Darlington in 1976 and then in Leicester.

My main professional interest was musculoskeletal radiology, particularly treating and managing back pain with radiological techniques. Early in my career I had spent two years studying psychiatry. Though I found it fascinating, I also found it extremely stressful: every doctor should do a year in psychiatry merely as an exercise in humility. Outside medicine I was particularly keen on the traditional music of Northumberland and Ireland: I played the violin, the Northumbrian small pipes, and the uilleann (Irish) pipes. I also played the guitar and clarinet. I loved Northumberland and managed to do a locum there almost each year. My marriage was dissolved in 1988; I had four children and one grandchild.—S M McNULTY

William Brian Hanley, MD, FRCP, who was a consultant physician at Southport and Formby District General Hospital 1967-91, died of a malignant glioma on 19 September aged 61. Born on 4 November 1930,

Brian graduated MB, ChB from Liverpool University in 1954. He worked in the department of medical genetics at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and in Liverpool before being appointed in Southport. While maintaining his interest in gastroenterology, he also became interested in cardiology and helped to develop a first rate cardiological service. Brian was a general practitioner's consultant: he appreciated the difficulties of generalists and used colleagues' mistakes as an opportunity to teach rather than to criticise. Nevertheless, he had no time for colleagues whose standards fell short of what he considered patients had a right to expect. Away from medicine he had a varied life. He took over the running of the family electrical company; could easily have made a living as a landscape gardener; and played golf with a low handicap. He is survived by his wife, Edna, and three sons.—M J SERLIN, M GRAHAM

Frederick Grosvenor Hinks, MB, BCHIR, formerly a general practitioner in Westcliff on Sea, died on 17 November aged 84. He was born in Southend on Sea in 1908 and was educated at Alleyn Court School in Westcliff on Sea and Uppingham School. He studied medicine at Clare College, Cambridge, and St Thomas's Hospital, qualifying MRCS, LRCP in 1933. He went into general practice in Southend in 1934 and served during the war with the Royal Army Medical Corps and the 8th Buffs Regiment in west Africa and India. Fred re-entered general practice in Westcliff on Sea in 1946 and partially retired in 1972. He served as local treasury medical officer, on medical boards for the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, and as chairman of Southend Medical Committee. Seldom one to display emotion, Fred had a dry sense of humour. He is survived by his wife, Mollie; his children, Frances, Patricia, and William; and four grandchildren.—STUART BROWN

Gerald Jerome Grainger, MRCS, LRCP, who was a general practitioner in south west London until 1989, died on 29 September aged 71. One of three medical brothers, like the oldest he trained at St Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying in 1944. He set up in singlehanded general practice just before the start of the NHS and only latterly joined a health centre, when his overgrown workload demanded it. He derived great satisfaction from working as divisional police surgeon for over 30 years: the interest and variety of police work were more than adequate compensation for the disturbance of so many nights' sleep. Golf was his main distraction away from medicine, and he played until two weeks before he died of pulmonary metastases from carcinoma of the prostate. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; daughter, Barbara; and son (me—also a doctor).—STEPHEN GRAINGER

Derek Neil Bates, MB, BS, a general practitioner in Clifton, Nottingham, has died. Born on 4 June 1927, he attended Nottingham High Pavement School and studied medicine at King's College Hospital, where he graduated in 1952. After national service in the Royal Air Force he entered general practice in a new estate at Clifton and worked there until his death. He took great interest in helping others: he was for many years the doctor for the Royal National Institute for the Blind's rehabilitation centre and gave much time to the local boys' club and Children's Society home. In addition, he was chairman of the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire branch of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust for 21 years, dealing not only with fund raising but also with the welfare of the sufferers and their families.—M J EVERTON